## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

We are very much grateful to Padmabhushan Dr. S. Z. Qasim, who is also the President of Mangrove Society of India, for his valuable leadership, inspiration and guidance to the society.

Mangrove Society of India (MSI) is always supported by the Director and Member Secretary of Science and Technology Department, Govt. of Goa, which enabled MSI to undertake various awareness projects. We are grateful to him. Several eminent scientists, researchers and mangrove lovers from India and abroad are the backbone of MSI, we remember all of them for their best wishes.

National Institute of Oceanography, one of the constituent laboratories of CSIR, New Delhi, is pioneer institute where most of us have started the mangrove research for the last 50 years. We, therefore, are grateful to the Director, NIO for the encouragement and facilities provided to MSI from time to time.

Forest Department, Goa Govt., Panaji has always been our helping hand and associate in implementation of conservation and management of mangroves in Goa. We extend our heartfelt thanks to this esteemed organization. We would also like to record our sincere appreciation and thanks to Shri Amar Heblekar, Principal, Forest Training School, Valpoi for his painstaking efforts in layout and designing of the book.

We would like to record our thanks and appreciation to all the Executive Members of MSI, Dr. Sayeeda Wafar, Dr. N. B. Bhosle, Shri P. V. Savant, Shri. V. T. Thomas and others for their support and help at various levels. We take this opportunity to thank Mrs. Vinaya V. Dhargalkar for contributing the chapter on popular recipes on mangrove products.

There are several personalities, who directly or indirectly have helped MSI. These persons are from different walks of life from Goa, outside Goa as well as from other countries. Their encouragements inspired MSI to move forward. Finally, MSI would like to extend our gratefulness to all our Corporate, Institutional, Life and Annual members for their support.